

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

Claims 18-24 remain pending in this application. Claims 13-17 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. No new claims have been added.

Priority

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's acknowledgment of the claim for priority and safe receipt of the priority document.

35 U.S.C. §102

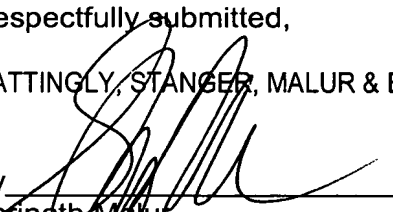
The rejection of claims 13-17 has been rendered moot by the cancellation of these claims without prejudice or disclaimer in order to expedite the issuance of subject matter indicated as being allowable.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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